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## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A coupling member for converting a two-post equipment rack,
- 2 comprising:
- a vertical support member having a first lateral end, a second lateral end, a first
- 4 longitudinal end, and a second longitudinal end;
- 5 an equipment attachment means coupled to the first lateral end, said equipment
- 6 attachment means defining a supporting point for a load, said equipment attachment
- 7 means being further adapted to secure to a load; and
- 8 means for securing the coupling member to the two-post equipment rack.
- 1 2. The coupling member of claim 1, wherein said supporting point emulates a
- 2 vertical upright in a four-post equipment rack.
- 1 3. The coupling member of claim 1, wherein said equipment attachment means is a
- 2 flange.
- 1 4. The coupling member of claim 1, wherein said load comprises a sliding assembly.
- 1 5. The coupling member of claim 1, wherein said load comprises a cable
- 2 management arm.
- 1 6. The coupling member of claim 1, wherein said load comprises electronic
- 2 equipment.
- 1 7. The coupling member of claim 1, further comprising:
- a first torsion member coupled to said vertical support member at said first
- 3 longitudinal end.

- 1 8. The coupling member of claim 7, further comprising:
- a second torsion member coupled to said vertical support member at said second
- 3 longitudinal end.
- 1 9. The coupling member of claim 1, wherein said means for securing the coupling
- 2 member to the two-post rack comprises a rack attachment flange coupled to the second
- 3 lateral end of the vertical support member.
- 1 10. The coupling member of claim 1, wherein the coupling member is adapted to be
- 2 mounted adjacent to other coupling members and to be supported by adjacent coupling
- 3 members.
- 1 11. The coupling member of claim 1, further comprising:
- 2 at least one coupling feature.
- 1 12. The coupling member of claim 11, wherein said at least one coupling feature is
- 2 attached to said first torsion member and on said second torsion member.
- 1 13. The coupling member of claim 11, wherein said at least one coupling feature is
- 2 located on said vertical support member.
- 1 14. The coupling member of claim 11, wherein said at least one coupling feature is
- 2 located on said equipment attachment means.
- 1 15. The coupling member of claim 11, wherein said coupling feature is adapted to
- 2 secure to other coupling members adjacent thereto.

- 1 16. The coupling member of claim 9, wherein said rack attachment flange is adapted
- 2 to provide a load transfer path from said vertical support member to the two-post
- 3 equipment rack.
- 1 17. The coupling member of claim 9, wherein said rack-attachment flange is in a pre-
- 2 loading configuration.
- 1 18. The coupling member of claim 17, wherein the pre-loading configuration is
- 2 provided by said rack attachment flange being secured to said vertical support member at
- 3 an acute angle.
- 1 19. The coupling member of claim 8, further including an outwardly extending
- 2 portion on said first and second torsion members, said outwardly extending portion
- 3 extending beyond said rack attachment flange.
- 1 20. The coupling member of claim 7, wherein said first torsion member further
- 2 includes a lower flange end on said outwardly extending portion adapted to provide a
- 3 pivot point for load support.
- 1 21. The coupling member of claim 8, wherein said second torsion member further
- 2 includes a lower flange end on said outwardly extending portion adapted to provide a
- 3 pivot point for load support.
- 1 22. The coupling member of claim 8, wherein said first and second torsion members
- 2 are have terminating portions formed at an obtuse angle relative to said vertical support
- 3 member.

- 1 23. The coupling member of claim 7, wherein said first torsion member is
- 2 substantially perpendicularly coupled to said vertical support member at the first
- 3 longitudinal end.
- 1 24. The coupling member of claim 8, wherein said second torsion member is
- 2 substantially perpendicularly coupled to said vertical support member at the second
- 3 longitudinal end.
- 1 25. The coupling member of claim 1, wherein the coupling member is formed in
- 2 increments of one modular unit ("U") in height.
- 1 26. The coupling member of claim 1, wherein said vertical support member is
- 2 provided with one or more openings thereon.
- 1 27. The coupling member of claim 26, wherein said openings are adapted to provide
- 2 ventilation.
- 1 28. The coupling member of claim 26, wherein said openings provide tie-points for
- 2 securement of cables thereto.
- 1 29. The coupling member of claim 7, wherein said first torsion member terminates at
- 2 a point prior to said equipment attachment means, forming a gap therein.
- 1 30. The coupling member of claim 8, wherein said second torsion member terminates
- 2 at a point prior to said equipment attachment means, forming a gap therein.



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1	31.A modified	l two-post rack,	comprising
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- a first vertical post having a first side and a second side;
- a second vertical post having a first side and a second side, said second vertical
- 4 post being coupled to said first post via a base;
- 5 a first coupling member coupled to and independently extending substantially
- 6 horizontally outward from said first post, said first coupling member replicating at least
- 7 one post in a four-post equipment rack; and
- 8 a second coupling member coupled to and independently extending substantially
- 9 horizontally outward from said second post, said second coupling member replicating at
- least one post in the four-post equipment rack.
  - 32. The modified two-post rack of claim 31, further comprising:
  - 2 a third coupling member coupled to and independently extending substantially
  - 3 horizontally outward from said first post; and
    - a fourth coupling member coupled to and independently extending substantially
    - horizontally outward from said second post, said first, second, third and fourth coupling
  - 6 members each substantially replicating a vertical upright in a four-post equipment rack.

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- 1 33. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 32, wherein said first coupling
  2 member comprises:
- a vertical support member having a first lateral end, a second lateral end, a first longitudinal end, and a second longitudinal end;
- an equipment attachment flange coupled to the first lateral end, said equipment attachment flange being adapted to emulate a vertical upright in a four-post equipment
- 7 rack, said equipment attachment flange being further adapted to secure to a load; and
- 8 a rack attachment flange coupled to the second lateral end of said vertical support
- 9 member.
- 34. The modified two-post rack of claim 33, wherein said first coupling member furthercomprises:
- a first torsion member coupled to said vertical support member at the first
   longitudinal end; and
  - a second torsion member coupled to said vertical support member at the second longitudinal end.
- 1 35. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 34, wherein said first coupling
- 2 member further comprises at least one coupling feature on said first torsion member and
- 3 on said second torsion member.
- 1 36. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 34, wherein said first coupling
- 2 member is adapted to be supported by adjacent vertical coupling members.
- 1 37. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 35, wherein the coupling feature is
- 2 adapted to secure to coupling members adjacent thereto.

- 1 38. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 33, further comprising said rack
- 2 attachment flange being adapted to provide a load transfer path from said vertical support
- 3 member to the two-post equipment rack.
- 1 39. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 33, further comprising said rack-
- 2 attachment flange being in a pre-loading configuration.
- 1 40. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 39, wherein said pre-loading
- 2 configuration comprises said rack attachment flange being secured to said vertical
- 3 support member at an acute angle.
- 1 41. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 34, further comprising:
- 2 said first torsion member and said second torsion member extending beyond said
- 3 rack attachment flange.
- 1 42. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 34, further comprising said first
- 2 torsion member having a lower flange end adapted to provide a pivot point for load
- 3 support.
- 1 43. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 34, further comprising said
- 2 second torsion member having a lower flange end adapted to provide a pivot point for
- 3 load support.
- 1 44. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 34, further comprising said first
- 2 torsion member substantially perpendicularly coupled to said vertical support member at
- 3 said first longitudinal end.

- 1 45. The modified two-post equipment rack of claim 34, further comprising said
- 2 second torsion member substantially perpendicularly coupled to said vertical support
- 3 member at said second longitudinal end.
- 1 46. A method for converting a two-post equipment rack to support four-post loads,
- 2 comprising:
- 3 coupling independent four-post replicating mounting points on the two-post
- 4 equipment rack, said four-post replicating mounting points being adapted to support the
- 5 four-post loads.
- 1 47. The method of claim 46, wherein said mounting points comprise two or more
- 2 independent coupling members wherein each coupling member attaches to only one
- 3 respective post.
- 1 48. The method of claim 46, wherein said four-post replicating mounting points
- 2 comprise four coupling members.
- 1 49. The method of claim 46, wherein one of said four-post replicating mounting
- 2 points comprise:
- a vertical support member having a first lateral end, a second lateral end, a first
- 4 longitudinal end, and a second longitudinal end;
- 5 an equipment attachment flange coupled to the first lateral end, said equipment
- 6 attachment flange being adapted to emulate a vertical upright in a four-post equipment
- 7 rack, said equipment attachment flange being further adapted to secure to a load; and
- 8 a rack attachment flange coupled to the second lateral end of said vertical support
- 9 member.

rack.

1	50.	The method of claim 49, wherein one of said four-post replicating mounting	
2	points further comprise:		
3		a first torsion member coupled to said vertical support member at the first	
4	longitudinal end; and		
5		a second torsion member coupled to said vertical support member at the second	
6	longitudinal end.		
1	51.	A method for adapting a two-post equipment rack to support four-post loads,	
2	comprising:		
3		coupling a first coupling member to a first post; and	
4		coupling a second coupling member to a second post, wherein said first coupling	
5	membe	nember and said second coupling member emulate two of the four posts in a four-post	
6	rack; and		
7		wherein the two-post equipment rack provides the remaining two posts in the	
8	four-post rack		
-1	52	The method of claim 51, further comprising:	
2		coupling a third coupling member to a first post substantially planar to and	
3	sub	substantially parallel to said first coupling member;	
4		coupling a fourth coupling member to said second post substantially planar to a	
5	substan	substantially parallel to said third coupling member;	
6		wherein each of the coupling members emulate one respective post in a four-post	

- 2 a vertical support member having a first lateral end, a second lateral end, a first
- 3 longitudinal end, and a second longitudinal end;
- 4 an equipment attachment flange coupled to the first lateral end, said equipment
- 5 attachment flange being adapted to emulate a vertical upright in a four-post equipment
- 6 rack, said equipment attachment flange being further adapted to secure to a load; and
- 7 a rack attachment flange coupled to the second lateral end of said vertical support
- 8 member.

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- 1 54. The method of claim 53, wherein said first coupling member further comprises:
- a first torsion member coupled to said vertical support member at the first
- 3 longitudinal end; and
- 4 a second torsion member coupled to said vertical support member at the second
- 5 longitudinal end.
- 1 55. The method of claim 51, further comprising securing a load to
- 2 the vertical support member of said first and said second coupling member.
- 1 56. The method of claim 52, further comprising securing a load to the vertical support
- 2 member of said first, said second, said third and said fourth coupling member.
- 1 57. The method of claim 53, wherein said load comprises a slide assembly.
- 1 58. The method of claim 52, further comprising:
- 2 securing a fifth coupling member to said first post; and
- 3 securing a sixth coupling member to said second post.

- 1 59. The method of claim 58, further comprising:
- 2 coupling said first coupling member to said fifth coupling member.
- 1 60. A method of converting a portion of a rack to emulate a commercially-available
- 2 four-post rack, comprising:
- 3 providing a plurality of coupling members thereon;
- 4 adjusting the forward depth of the two-post rack;
- 5 adjusting a mounting feature on at least one of the plurality of coupling members.
- 1 61 The method of claim 60, wherein the converted rack is a two-post rack.
- 1 62 The method of claim 60, wherein said providing a plurality includes placement of
- 2 said plurality of coupling members depending on the load configuration.
- 1 63. The method of claim 60, further comprising:
- 2 adjusting the aft depth of the two-post rack.
- 1 64. The method of claim 60, further comprising:
- attaching a load to at least one of the plurality of coupling members.
- 1 65. The method of claim 64, further comprising:
- 2 substantially centering the load about the two-post rack.
- 1 66. The method of claim 60, further comprising:
- 2 forming an opening in the two-post rack in accordance with a standard defined by
- 3 EIA-310.

- 1 67. An equipment support device for two-post rack systems, comprising:
- 2 rack attachment means;
- 3 . an equipment attachment means coupled to said rack attachment means; and
- 4 a coupling feature for connecting the support device to adjacent equipment
- 5 support devices.
- 1 68. A method for racking a device having a four-post rack-mounting configuration to
- 2 a two-post rack system, said method comprising:
- 3 installing a two-post to four-post adapter on the two-post rack system, the two-
- 4 post to four-post adapter operable to support a device having a four-post rack-mounting
- 5 configuration; and
- mounting the device to the two-post to four-post adapter. 6
- 1 69. The method according to claim 68, wherein said installing includes coupling the
- 2 two-post to four-post adapter to the two-post rack system.
- 1 70. The method according to claim 69, wherein the coupling includes bolting the two-
- 2 post to four-post adapter to the two-post rack system.
- 1 71. The method according to claim 68, wherein the two-post to four-post adapter
- 2 includes at least two coupling members.

- 1 72. A system for racking a device having a four-post rack-mounting configuration to
- 2 a two-post rack system, said system comprising:
- means for installing a two-post to four-post adapter on the two-post rack system,
- 4 the two-post to four-post adapter operable to support a device having a four-post rack-
- 5 mounting configuration; and
- 6 means for mounting the device to the two-post to four-post adapter.
- 1 73. A method for enabling rack mounting of a device having a four-post rack-
- 2 mounting configuration to a two-post rack system, said method comprising:
- providing a two-post to four-post adapter on the two-post rack system, the two-
- 4 post to four-post adapter operable to support the device having a four-post rack-mounting
- 5 configuration.
- 1 74. The method according to claim 73, wherein the two-post to four-post adapter
- 2 includes at least two coupling members.
- 1 75. The method according to claim 73, further comprising:
- 2 measuring hardware providing for the configuration of the device having the four-
- 3 post rack-mounting configuration; and
- 4 specifying dimensions for the two-post to four-post adapter based on said
- 5 measuring.
- 1 76. The method according to claim 73, wherein said providing includes at least one of
- 2 the following:
- selling, distributing, including, offering for sale, advertising, and marketing.

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- 1 77. The method according to claim 73, wherein the two-post to four-post adapter is
- 2 provided with the device.
- 1 78. The method according to claim 73, wherein the two-post to four-post adapter is
- 2 provided with the two-post rack system.
- 1 79. The method according to claim 77, wherein the device is a computer server.